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Sealed proposals, plainly marked on  
the outside of the envelope, "Proposals  
for the Agricultural building, and also  
for the Green Houses, for the Oregon  
Agricultural College, Corvallis, Or.,"  
and addressed to the Secretary of the  
Board of Regents, E. E. Wilson, at  
the college office, until 2 o'clock P. M.  
of August 14, 1909., for the construction  
of a four story agricultural building,  
and for the construction of Green  
Houses, at Corvallis, Or., in strict ac-  
cordance with the plans, specifications  
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**LIGHT WITHOUT HEAT**

The Puzzle of the Tiny Firefly  
and the Mighty Comet.

**EACH HOLDS THE SECRET.**

It is a Mystery to Science, and the Man  
Who is Able to Penetrate That Mys-  
tery Will Be in a Position to Revo-  
lutionize This Planet of Ours.

This is not an Aesop fable, although  
it has a moral.

There are two things in whose pres-  
ence science stands wondering and  
abashed—the little glowworm (or the  
yet tinier firefly) and the mighty comet  
arching the sky with its glimmering  
train. Each of them holds the same  
secret—how to make light without  
heat. The man who gets that secret  
will revolutionize the planet.

The late president of the Royal As-  
tronomical Society of Great Britain  
referred to the value of the comet's  
secret in his retiring address. He  
thought that we do not sufficiently ap-  
preciate the wondrous spectacle of a  
comet's tail. It shows us hundreds of  
billions of cubic miles of space simul-  
taneously glowing with luminosity  
whose origin is a mystery.

It is a gigantic experiment in a  
branch of physics of which we as yet  
know very little. The comet is im-  
mersed in what we may well regard  
as a vacuum; at least it is a far more  
perfect vacuum than we can produce.  
Yet the persistent glow of the comet's  
tail shows that there is no real vacuum  
there, but a vast quantity of extreme-  
ly attenuated matter which no doubt  
is the cause of the luminosity.

We ought, Professor Newall thinks,  
to awake to the importance of this  
hint. "Who knows," he says, "wheth-  
er, if we could discover a method of  
disrupting gases and vapors in ultra  
vacuous spaces artificially maintained  
on earth, we should not have a method  
of artificial illumination as econom-  
ical as that of the glowworm and as  
brilliant as is needed for our nocturnal  
life?"

This thing may really be within our  
reach, although at the present time  
we cannot even suggest to ourselves  
exactly how it is to be attained. But  
the tendency of recent investigation is  
in that direction. As Sir John Her-  
schel said of another discovery which  
was just at the door, "We can feel it  
trembling along the farreaching line  
of our analysis."

There are not a few men, who are  
regarded by their harder headed sci-  
entific brethren as "dreamers," who pic-  
ture to themselves a fast coming time  
when we shall not only obtain light at  
as cheap a rate as the firefly has it,  
but when we shall have tapped the ex-  
haustless stores of energy that sleep  
all around us in nature.

We are like one in a dream sus-  
pended in the midst of a vast work-  
shop crowded with multitudinous ma-  
chines, all whirling and fluttering in  
a storm of energies, but which he can  
neither control nor understand. If  
we could see these things they might  
terrify us, as the dreamer is terrified  
by the whirling belts and spinning  
wheels of his vision, seeming to grasp  
at his life.

If the scientific investigator needs  
to establish a *raison d'être* in the eyes  
of the public, which cannot follow  
either his processes or his results, he  
has only to point to the fact that the  
greatest practical discoveries of mod-  
ern times have come out of the labora-  
tories from things as incomprehensible  
to the uninitiated as so much magic. It  
is a well known fact that the growing  
might of Germany springs from her  
devotion to "pure research."

Referring again to the pregnant hint  
of the comet, Professor Newall is  
clearly right in saying, "Here is a  
theme that should stir up the most  
commercial mind in the support of as-  
tronomy."—Garrett P. Serviss in New  
York American.

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are mostly colored people; on the Sixth  
avenue they are largely Americans, if  
there are any Americans in New York;  
on the Broadway cars there are styl-  
ishly dressed New Yorkers; on the  
Third avenue Irish and Jewish people  
predominate, on the Second avenue  
Jewish, Italian, Hungarian, Swedish  
and German, while on the surface cars  
that run along Avenue A you see  
every foreign nationality under the  
sun, all bareheaded.—New York Press.

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